

Message Text

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20

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ACDA-19 ADP-00 CIAE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12

NEA-10 MC-02 OMB-01 GAC-01 SAJ-01 TRSE-00 RSR-01 /125 W
----- 019980

R 261016 Z MAR 73
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7464
INFO USDEL SALT TWO
USNATO 1592
DIA WAHHDC
CNO// OP-942// WASHDC
COMNAVINTCOM ALEX VA
USCINCEUR (J2)
CINCUSNAVEUR (N2)

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PARM, MCAP, US, UR

SUBJECT: SOVIET MILITARY ANALYST CRITICIZES TRIDENT

REF: USDAO MOSCOW 3220 DTG 231616 Z MAR 73 (NOTAL)

1. SOVIET SPECIALIST ON US MILITARY STRATEGY SVYATOV, WHO IS AFFILIATED WITH USA INSTITUTE, PUBLISHES ARTICLE IN MARCH 23 RED STAR CONDENSED FROM MARCH ISSUE NAVAL DIGEST ON PROSPECTS FOR US NAVY IN CURRENT US MILITARY PLANNING. ARTICLE IS DESCRIPTIVE RATHER THAN ANALYTICAL WITH EXCEPTION OF POINTED CRITICISM OF ACCELERATED TRIDENT DEVELOPMENT AND DEPLOYMENT. SVYATOV ENDORSES VIEWS EXPRESSED IN US THAT TRIDENT SPEED- UP IS INCOMPATIBLE WITH SPIRIT OF MAY 1972 SALT AGREEMENTS. HE NOTES SEVEN- FOLD INCREASE IN APPROPRIATIONS FOR TRIDENT IN FY 1973, BASED ON " CONTRIVED" ARGUMENT THAT THIS WILL STRENGTHEN US BARGAINING POSITION IN TALKS WITH USSR. INSTEAD, HE ARGUES, IMPROVEMENT OF US- SOVIET RELATIONS IS BEST ACHIEVED BY CURBING ARMS RACE BOTH QUANTITATIVELY AND QUALITATIVELY.

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2. SVYATOV DOES NOT TAKE ISSUE WITH CONCEPT OF EXPANDED NAVAL ROLE IN BOTH STRATEGIC AND CONVENTIONAL FIELD. BY IMPLICATION, HE SEEMS TO TAKE IT FOR GRANTED, SINCE HE ACKNOWLEDGES PROBLEM OF LAND- BASED MISSILE SURVIVABILITY AND LIKELIHOOD OF DECLINE IN PERMANENT US MILITARY PRESENCE ON FOREIGN SOIL.

3. COMMENT: SVYATOV ALERTED EMBASSY DAO OFFICER TO FORTHCOMING ARTICLE IN CONVERSATION LAST MONTH. HE CLAIMED IT WAS WELL THOUGHT OF IN HIGH PLACES. OUR IMPRESSION IS THAT, TO EXTENT ARTICLE REFLECTS AUTHORITATIVE SOVIET THINKING, THERE IS PROBABLY ACCEPTANCE OF TRIDENT AS ACCOMPLISHED FACT BUT FEAR OF OTHER MAJOR QUALITATIVE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS IN US WEAPONRY. NAVAL DIGEST VERSION OF ARTICLE MAKES IT CLEAR THAT CONCERN OVER QUALITATIVE UPGRADING APPLIES BOTH TO CONVENTIONAL AND STRATEGIC SYSTEMS, ALTHOUGH THIS DOES NOT EMERGE FROM RED STAR VERSION.
DUBS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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Subject: SOVIET MILITARY ANALYST CRITICIZES TRIDENT
TAGS: MCAP, PARM, UR, US
To: CINCUSNAVEUR (N2)
CNO// OP-942// WASHDC
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